ASSOCHAM's strategic vision for technology industry

1169. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry has formulated a strategic vision for technology industry.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any action has been taken/proposed to be taken thereon;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. In this context, it is understood from the Associated Chambers of Commerce and industry of India that they are in the process of formulating ASSOCHAM's strategic vision document for technology industry based on the recommendations of the ASSOCHAM's National Seminar on "Riding High in the Next Global Wave of Knowledge Industry: A Strategic Vision of the Indian Technology (R&D) Industry" help on June 13, 2002 at Bangalore. Government is not involved in the formulation of said strategic vision document.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Import of plastic waste by Pepsi

1170. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pepsi Company is importing 45,000 tonnes of plastic wastes to India annually;

(b) if so, what are the details of steps taken by Government in this regard to meet with this problem: and

(c) the names of major foreign companies that cause waste disposal problem in the country?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) No, Sir. As per the information made available by

Directorate General of Foreign Trade Pepsi Company has not been issued any import licence during 2000-2001 for import of plastic wastes.

In accordance with the public notice No. 392 (PN), 92—97 regarding procedure relating to import to plastic wasts/scrape dated 1st January, 1997, except for PET bottle scrap/waste, import of plastic waste is not permitted without a valid licence issued by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade.

National policy on Science and Technology

1171. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH:
SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are preparing a new National Policy on Science and Technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when the policy is likely to be announced;

(d) whether Government have decided to overhaul the functioning of various Scientific and research laboratories under Government in various parts of the country, including, CSIR; and

(e) if so, the reasons for undertkaing this exercise ahead of the announcement of the new policy and before the objectives and priorities are framed thereunder?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The policy is in its draft stage and is being discussed at the highest levels in the Government.

(d) No, Sir,

(e) Does not arise.